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ANNUAL REPORT 143433

OF THE

Selectmen and Treasurer,

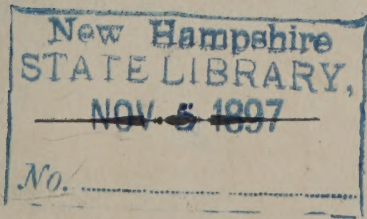
AND

Superintending School Committee,

OF THE

TOWN OF MADBURY,

For the Year ending March 1, 1876.



SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT.

EXPENDITURES FOR 1874.

SCHOOLS.

Paid Jonathan Jenkins,	Com. Dist. No. 1,	\$76 82
Charles E Demeritt,	" "	230 62
G W Bodge & S N Robinson	" "	126 61
M V B Felker,	" "	147 42
Treasurer of City of Dover for Hayes' and Hill's proportion of school money,		17 68
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		\$599 15
State tax,		\$616 00
County tax,		\$600 88

SALARIES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Jacob D Young, Selectman,	\$25 00
Charles E Demeritt, "	25 00
David H Evans, "	25 00
Jacob D Young, town Treasurer,	10 00
George W Kelley, town Clerk,	10 00
N C Snell, S S Committee,	14 00
N C Snell, posting school law,	1 50
N C Snell, 2 school books for indigent children,	75
Asa Young, superintending town hall,	2 00
Charles R Meserve, collector,	30 00
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	\$143 25

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Charles L Huckins, support of Frank Cole one year, up to March 1, 1876,	\$65 00
Ira A Locke, support of John and Ellen Church one year, up to March 1, 1876,	78 00
Jacob D Young, one day with county Com. looking up pauper case,	2 00
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	\$145 00

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid town of Durham, plank for Freshet bridge,	\$23 20
James Meserve, work on road in Dist. No. 2,	\$1 50
Stephen Jenkins, " over highway tax, "	16 00
Stephen Jenkins, " on Freshet bridge,	18 00
Stephen Jenkins, two stringers for same,	2 00
Ira T Jenkins, 580 feet lumber for same,	5 80
Clough & Foster, 1704 feet plank, Canney bridge,	27 26
Charles E Demeritt, for work on road in Dist. No. 6,	7 00
Andrew N Jackson, work on road, over Highway tax,	4 00
E E Demeritt, work on road over highway tax,	1 00
Albert Varney, plank for Ricker bridge,	4 50
Samuel C Gerrish's heirs, work on road, over highway tax in Dist. No. 2,	10 20
Benjamin F Hayes, 700 feet plank for Gerrish bridge,	12 60
Isaac P Church, 285 feet plank for same,	5 12
Jacob D Young, two days work on culvert in M V B Felker's Dist., in 1874,	3 00
Jacob D Young, repairs on Canney bridge,	1 00
Jacob D Young, expenses to Barrington after plank and putting on Canney bridge,	2 00
James J Griffin, labor and plank on same,	3 37
Dennis McNalley, work on road,	75
Tobias Cole, work on road,	75
John W Emery, work on Road in Dist. No. 2,	5 95
John W Emery, 29 loads gravel,	4 35
John W Cole, work on road,	53
District No. 13, George W Huckins, surveyor, work on road April 6, 1875,	2 40
George W Bodge, work on road,	3 17
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	\$165 52

BREAKING ROADS

In March, last year after the books were closed.

Paid Dist No 1, Jonathan Jenkins, surveyor, 29 hours work breaking roads,	\$4 35
Dist No 2, Edwin L Jenkins sarveyor, 66 1-2 h'rs,	9 97
" 3, Alfred Demeritt, surveyor, 162 2-3 h'rs,	24 42
" 4, Edward Pendexter " 51 hours,	7 65
" 5, John W Cole " 36 2-3 hours,	5 50
" 6, E E Demeritt " 70 hours,	10 50
" 7, George W Bodge " 44 "	6 60
" 8, David H Evans " 61 "	9 15
" 9, Alonzo D Nute " 172 "	25 80
" 10, Charles R Meserve " 145 "	21 65
" 11, M V B Felker " 133 1-2 hours,	20 52
" 12, Charles L Huckins " 68 hours,	10 20
" 13, George W Huckins " 170 1:2 hours,	26 70
" 14, John C Hanson " 19 hours,	2 85
" 15, George O Hayes, " 62 hours,	9 34
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	\$195 20

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid E J Lane, Inventory books,	\$1 50
Collector & Surveyor's books and stationery,	4 08
Inventory books and stationery in September, for new invent'y,	1 67
Town Officer, new edition,	2 50
Town Officer for Town Clerk,	2 50
Libbey & Co., printing town accounts in 1874,	16 00
George W Kelley, recording births, marriages & deaths, and enrolling Militia,	6 00
Fred Richardson, damage to carriage in 1874, on account of defect in highway,	5 00
E E Demeritt, funnel for town house,	75
S H Fuller, " "	96
Post office box and postage stamps,	2 54
Selectmen, services taking new inventory in September, 1875, ten days each,	60 00
E J Lane, 3 blank Check Lists, on paper,	1 00
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	\$104 50

BREAKING ROADS IN 1876.

Paid Dist No 2, E L Jenkins, surveyor, 50 hours,	\$7 50
“ 3, Chas E Demeritt, “ 35 “	5 25
“ 12, Wm S Hayes, “ 34 “	5 10
“ 9, Albert Varney, “ 59 “	8 85
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	\$26 70

SCHOOL HOUSE TAX.

Paid Charles E Demeritt, Committee District No 2,	\$20 75
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ABATEMENTS FOR 1875.

Paid Robert Spurling s heirs, on real estate,	\$2 87
Mrs Tobias Cole, on dog,	1 00
John W Cole, on dog,	1 00
Daniel Morrison, on dog,	1 00
Edward J Hayes, on cow,	28
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	\$6 15

DAMAGE BY DOGS IN 1874.

Paid Albert Varney, one sheep killed,	\$5 00
Reuben Hayes' heirs, one sheep and lamb killed,	10 00
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	\$15 00

TOWN OF MADBURY IN ACC'T WITH TREASURER,
CR.

By Cash in treasury, in 1875,	\$853 14
State, County, town, school, dog and school	
house tax, District No 2,	1,890 09
Highway tax,	980 73
Savings Bank tax,	661 23
Railroad tax,	78 67
Literary fund,	47 73
Literary fund in Stephen Jenkins' hands,	12 42
County of Strafford, support of County paupers,	78 00
Rent of town house above expenses,	6 05
Outstanding in C W Hayes' list,	6 75
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	\$4,614 81

TOWN OF MADBURY IN ACC'T WITH TREASURER, DR.

Paid to schools,	\$599 15
State tax,	616 00
County tax,	600 88
Salaries,	143 25
Support of poor,	145 00
Roads and bridges,	165 52
Breaking roads, 1875,	195 20
Breaking roads, 1876,	26 70
Highway tax worked out,	910 99
Miscellaneous bills,	104 35
School house tax, District No 2,	20 75
Abatelements,	6 15
Damage by dogs, 1874,	15 00
Outstanding in C W Hayes' list, 1872,	6 75
Auditors,	2 00
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	\$3,557 99
In Treasury,	\$1,056 82
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	\$4,614 81

JACOB D. YOUNG, Treasurer.

JACOB D. YOUNG.	} Selectmen of Madbury.
CHARLES E. DEMERITT,	
DAVID H. EVANS,	

We, the undersigned, certify that we have examined the foregoing accounts of the town treasurer, and find them correctly cast, and all payments charged the town properly vouched.

March 1, 1876.

JOHN B. HUCKINS,	} Auditors
ALBERT VARNEY,	

Cash in treasury March 1, '76, including dog tax,	\$1,056 82
Outstanding in C W Hayes' list for 1872,	6 75

\$1,063 57

SCHOOL MONEY, 1874.

School money raised by town,	\$539 00
Literary fund,	47 73
Literary fund interest in S Jenkins's hands,	12 42

\$599 15

35 dogs taxed in 1875,	\$37 00
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JACOB D. YOUNG,	} Selectmen of Madbury.
CHARLES E. DEMERITT,	
DAVID H. EVANS,	

SCHOOL REPORT.

TO THE CITIZENS OF MADBURY:—

I have the honor of submitting a report of the schools of this town for the past year.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Jonathan Jenkins, Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Mary L Demeritt, teacher. Number of scholars from Madbury, 11. The average attendance, 7. Length of school in weeks, 10. Wages of teacher per month including board, \$30 00. Number of scholars attending to reading, 9. Spelling, 9. Penmanship, 7. Arithmetic, 8. Geography, 4. Grammar, 4. Number of scholars not absent one-half day, 4.

We believe the want of health and a long vacation after three and three-fifths weeks, rendered the services of Mrs. Demeritt of but little good to the school. The school teacher requires as good health for his or her laborious and trying duties as school teacher, as for any other vocation. We think the progress of the school quite limited.

WINTER TERM.—Miss Sarah M. Pickering, teacher. Number of scholars, 11. Average attendance, 8. Length of school in weeks, 8. Wages of teacher per month including board, \$34. Number of scholars attending to reading, 11. Spelling, 11. Penmanship, 11. Arithmetic, 11. Geography, 5. Grammar, 3. Number not absent one-half day, 1. Number of scholars not attending school: Summer term, 0. Winter term, 2.

We think Miss Pickering was well qualified to teach, but failed altogether in governing her school; a little more energy on her part would have made her services of more effect. We are sorry to report such a failure in the schools of this district for the year; for the sake of the scholars, and because they are the only failures, or part successes, I have to record in my report.

We believe there are no persons in the district between the ages of 14 and 21 who cannot read and write.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Charles E. Demeritt, Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Mr. Charles H. Trickey, teacher. Number of scholars, 29. Average attendance, 21 49-59. Length of school in weeks, 12. Wages of teacher per month, \$32. Number of scholars not absent one-half day, 2. Number attending to reading, 28. Spelling, 28. Penmanship, 8. Arithmetic, 29. Geography, 9. Grammar, 10. Composition, 5. Book-keeping, 2. Book of Nature, 1.

WINTER TERM.—Mr. Albert Demeritt, teacher. Number of scholars, 25. Average attendance, 19 53-58. Length of school in weeks, 11 3-5. Wages of teacher per month, \$45. Number of scholars attending to reading, 25. Spelling, 24. Penmanship, 25. Arithmetic, 21. Geography, 7. Grammar, 12. Composition, 1. Geometry, 1. Algebra, 6. Latin, 1. Drawing, 1. Number of scholars not absent one-half day, 0. Number between 5 and 15 years of age not attending school anywhere, 3.

Number of persons in the district who cannot read and write, 0 ; and this is true in all the districts.

The schools in this district have been all we could wish, if we except the irregular attendance and non-attendance of some scholars in the district, and the want of punctuality on the part of some.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Samuel N Robinson, } Prudential
George W Bodge, } Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Miss Nellie A. Hayes, teacher. Number of scholars, 15. Average attendance, 12 1-2. Length of school in weeks, 8. Wages of teacher per month, \$28. Number of scholars not absent one-half day, 4. Number attending to reading, 15. Spelling, 15. Penmanship, 8. Arithmetic, 10. Geography, 2. Grammar, 6. Composition, 6. Physiology, 3. Algebra, 5. Latin, 3.

WINTER TERM.—Miss Maggie S Drew, Teacher. Number of scholars, 19. Average, 15 3-43. Length of school in weeks, 8, 3 1-6 days. Wages per month, \$28. Number of scholars not absent one-half day, 1. Number attending to reading, 19. Spelling, 19. Penmanship, 7. Arithmetic, 16. Geography, 5. Grammar, 3. Latin 1. Physiology, 1. Algebra, 4. Scholars in district between 5 and 15 years of age, not attending school anywhere ; Summer, 4. Winter, 4.

The school in summer gave entire satisfaction to every parent and scholar, as was right and just, for the teacher is kind, careful and prudent, and understands both parents and scholars.

In the Winter Miss Drew found it a hard task to keep as good order as was desirable or necessary for the success of the school. There has been in this school for several Winters, on the part of some of the oldest and largest of the scholars, a desire to take the government of the school in their own hands, play when it pleased them to, and study when they chose, if at all ; and such has been the success in

that direction that the school is behind other schools of equal advantages and talents. Considering it duty on the part of both committee and teacher to have an orderly school *this* Winter, your committee has advised the teacher to be strict, and fortunately she was able to be so without being very severe in corporal punishment, and but one expulsion, although some left rather than obey the orders of the school.

I am confident that Miss Drew was one of our best teachers, 'fresh from the school of one of the best teachers, trained for his business in a Normal school; her manner of teaching was excellent, and very effective, especially with her skill and industry in using up all her time to the great advantage of her scholars.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Martin V. B. Felker, Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Miss Martha E. Hayes, teacher. Number of scholars, 20. Average, 17. Length of school in weeks, 8. Wages per month, \$32. Number of scholars not absent one-half day, 8; and 2 but one-half day. Number attending to reading, 20. Spelling, 20. Penmanship, 10. Arithmetic, 13. Geography, 8. Grammar, 6. Algebra, 5.

WINTER TERM.—Mr. Chas. W. Hayes, teacher. Number of scholars, 25. Average, 22 1-3. Length of school in weeks, 7 3-5. Wages per month, \$40. Number of scholars not absent one-half day, 11; and 1 only one-half day. Number attending to reading, 25. Spelling, 25. Penmanship, 14. Arithmetic, 20. Geography, 8. Grammar, 11. Algebra, 4. Geometry, 2. Number of scholars between 5 and 15 years of age not attending school: Summer term, 3. Winter term, 0.

The success of the experienced and well proved teachers of this district, will need no comments from me;—in this district we find the most intense earnestness and determination to make the most of their advantages. Here we have found, for several years, the best teachers they could engage; here find scholars willing to obey their teachers; here find harmony amongst the parents; here, on examination and other days of the term, find

whole families or representatives of almost every family in the district, represented by parents in the school room. Is the high standard their school has attained a wonder? They know from personal observation, of the trials and difficult labors of teachers. They know the teacher has work enough directing and teaching, without the extra labor of watching and punishing rebellious scholars, therefore the scholar goes to school with the order 'obey your teacher in all things;' they know better than to choose, or imagine a model teacher, and because the committee could not or did not get one just after their pattern, turn their backs to him or her and instead of encouraging and aiding the teacher, that in all probability will keep the term out, to the very end, do all they can to annoy and discourage him and destroy the school.

Mr. Hayes, in his notes in his register, remarks that of ninety months of teaching experience, and his superintendence of schools, he never has, in all that experience, noticed a school of such punctuality; eleven of his scholars missed none, and others but very little, and the deportment and recitations represent about the same earnestness.

Thirteen scholars, viz.: Laura T. Chadwick, Seddie M. Felker, Ida B. Locke, Georgie E. Twombly, Lillie L. Young, Esther S. Young, Nellie Tucker, Henry L. Felker, Henry G. Hayes, Frank W. Sanders, John H. Twombly, Edward L. Young and Lewis H. Young, for punctuality and correct deportment have their names put upon a roll of honor to be hung in the school room.

With a few general remarks I close this report, the last I can be induced to make for the town, with my sincere thanks to you all for your aid, forbearance and sympathy; for the pleasure you have given me in your earnestness to have good schools and the success you have won.

I have neglected until now to fulfil the requirements of the law of 1874, requesting selectmen to annually make an enumeration of the children of each sex in the town, or several towns, and make a report of such enumeration to the Superintending School Committee of their respective towns and cities. I report here:

The whole number returned to me by the selectmen is Males 57; Females, 46; Total, 103. The number who have not attended school enough to be reckoned scholars, are Males, 2; Females, 1; Total, 3.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In closing my report, I make these general remarks, not special to any one district, but applicable to all; but they must and cannot be nothing new, for committees and friends of common school education have been, and are now urging us to heed those rules and adopt those measures which will surely make our schools good and successful in educating and fitting the generation which will soon take our places, to fill them better than we can and do fill them, because better educated, more enlightened. We feel it, and know that education makes us happier as a general rule, although, "as some argue, it makes men worse;" it may raise bad men to high positions where they can do much harm, yet it is one of the greatest blessings God has given to us, ability to study, minds that will expand and lift us up into purer light, and this He requires of us.

For this object we are interested for the rising generation. It is the desire of every right minded and loving parent that his child shall be wiser, happier and better than he himself is. We would again urge prudential committees of our town to be careful and secure the best teachers, engage them early, and if committees are chosen late and good teachers are engaged, better wait than hire doubtful ones. With as much care as should be exercised in hiring teachers, many of our poorer schools would be avoided. I would recommend that prudential committees who find it difficult to procure good teachers, to write to the Principal of the State Normal School, stating to him the requirements of the school for which the teacher is wanted, and he might, from his knowledge of his students, give us just the teacher we want.

We have a State Normal School of our own that we should patronize and encourage, calculated by its friends and managers to be a complete training school for teachers, as it really is; let us have some of those teachers in our schools; if they prove as good as Mr. Trickey, in district No. 2, we shall not be sorry we made the effort.

Let us be more careful in regard to the punctuality of our children; let them form habits of promptness and regularity which are so valuable and indispensable in themselves alone.

Let us also look to our school houses and see if they are comfortable and inviting enough to elevate and stimulate to habits of neatness and good taste those young minds that are grow-

ing up and expanding in and around them; decide whether they do credit to the goodly town of Madbury or not.

We have seen fit to exchange the reading books so long used in our schools, the Progressive Series for the new and beautiful Franklin Series, at an expense to the scholars of about \$22, and the old ones have paid a good part of that. We believe it a pecuniary advantage to the town, for many of the books were worn out, and to replace them with the Progressives is twice the expense of the Franklin at exchange prices.

And in conclusion we would call your attention to the very important duty of standing by and supporting our teachers in their labors with us. We may have teachers who are young, but excellent for their places, if from good schools, who have not learned much of human nature, and might say and do some things in school and out that would not please all, and that they would not repeat; what folly in parents to despise and openly condemn teachers on such narrow ground; far better in us to encourage, and, if need be, very gently advise; treat teachers that come amongst us as we would have others treat ours if they went out from our homes amongst strangers; and before parents make rules for the schools and prescribe many conflicting modes of discipline, visit the schools and see how easy a task it is to keep in order a room filled with happy, animated scholars.

Teachers may sometimes be so tried in hard schools, and so hard pushed as to neglect some little act of politeness to visitors; let charity cover up such little insignificant errors and mistakes, and remember that if we are wise we shall be good and kind, for wisdom is gentleness and goodness. Most respectfully,

NEHEMIAH C. SNELL, S. S. Committee.

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